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A channel structure for use in communication systems. Two sets of physical channels, one for the forward link and another for the reverse link, are utilized to facilitate communication of a variety of logical channels. The physical channels comprise data and control channels. In the exemplary embodiment, the data channels comprise fundamental channels which are used to transmit voice traffic, data traffic, high speed data, and other overhead information and supplemental channels which are used to transmit high speed data. The fundamental channels can be released when the remote stations are idle to more fully utilized the available capacity. The control channels are used to transmit paging and control messages and scheduling information.